

Mayor's Gang & Crime Prevention Summit

January 22, 2010

Clean, Safe, & Engaged Communities

Strong Neighborhoods

City of San José + Redevelopment Works



Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force and Strong Neighborhoods

- MGPTF has an established bank of trust among schools and gang impacted youth and adults
- Strong Neighborhoods has an established bank of trust with community based organizations, neighborhoods and schools
- Strong Neighborhoods has Neighborhood Solutions Teams to focus on stabilizing and fostering positive assets in the Neighborhood Focus Areas
- “Connects the Dots”

Neighborhood Focus Areas

Guiding Principles:

- To have **CLEAN**, **SAFE**, and **ENGAGED** neighborhoods
- Flexible, mobile, field based teams that allow for a single point of contact for each neighborhood
- Develop timely action plans that execute the goals listed below for each neighborhood

Goals:

- Support methods to strengthen communication, organizing and engagement among neighborhood leaders, neighborhoods, staff and government
- Activate neighborhoods to address graffiti, litter and other issues related to neighborhood cleanliness
- Foster neighborhood action to address neighborhood priorities
- Address housing issues, focusing on housing rehabilitation
- Address code issues with an emphasis on reducing blight



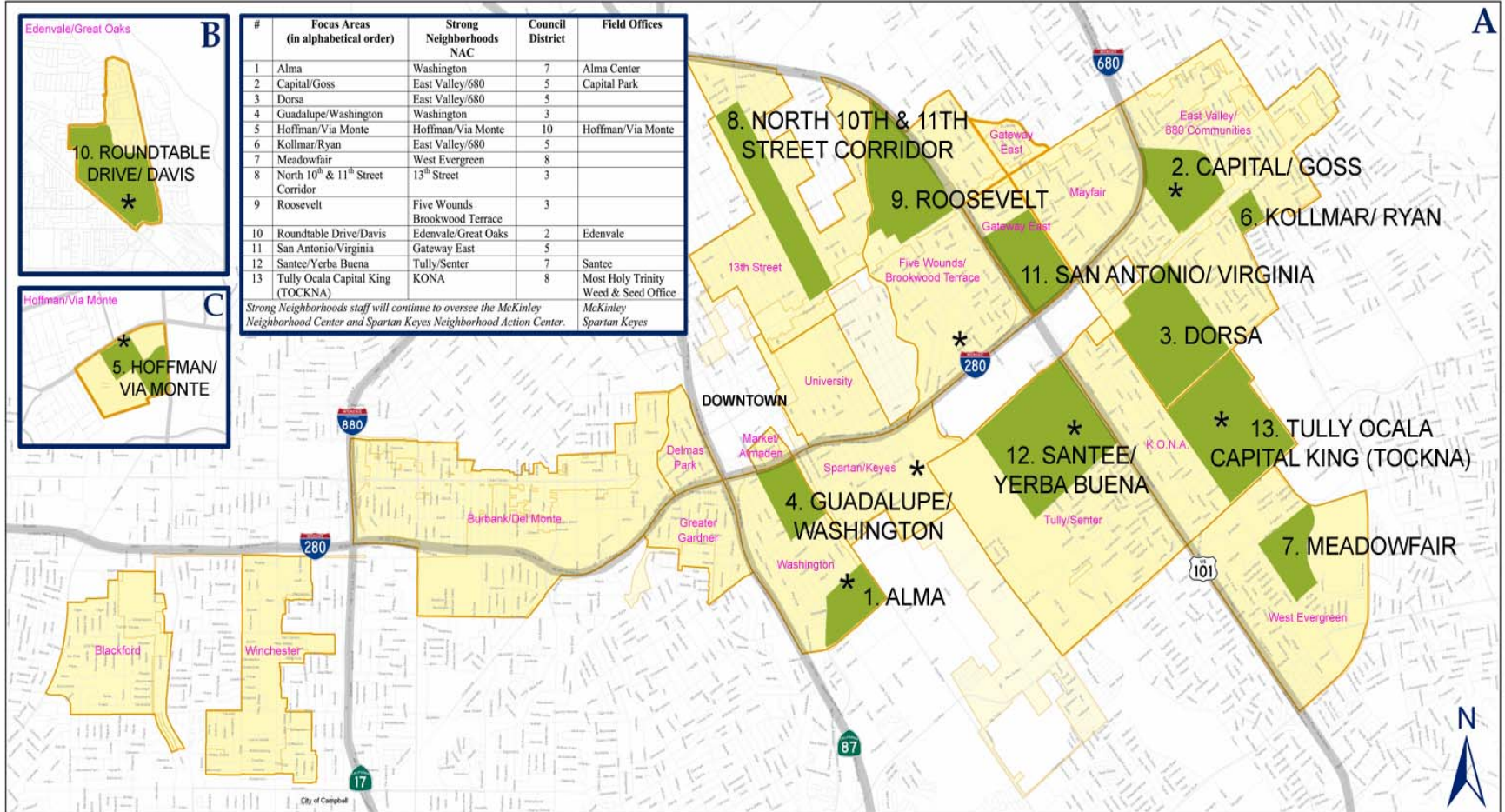
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Neighborhood Focus Areas

Neighborhood Focus Areas	Points	Rank	Strong Neighborhoods Areas	PD Division	2010 MGPTF Hot Spot	Council District
Kollmar Apartments/Ryan	429	1	East Valley/680	Foothill	Kollmar	5
DORSA/Weed and Seed Site	403	2	East Valley/680	Foothill	Ocala	5
San Antonio/ Virginia	391	3	Gateway East	Foothill		5
Meadowfair	371	4	West Evergreen	Foothill		8
Santee / Yerba Buena	343	5	Tully-Senter	Western	Santee/ Yerba Buena	7
Roundtable / Davis	343	5	Edenvale/Great Oaks	Southern	Roundtable/ Davis	2
TOCKNA – Tully / Ocala / Capitol / King – Weed and Seed Site	340	6	KONA	Foothill	Ocala/ Valley Palms	8
Roosevelt	318	7	FWBT	Central	Roosevelt	3
N 10 th / 11 th St Corridor	306	8	13th Street	Central	Backesto	3
Capitol/Goss	285	9	East Valley/680	Foothill		5
Guadalupe/ Washington	277	10	Washington	Western	Washington	3
Alma	277	10	Washington	Western	Gardner/ Alma	7
Hoffman/Via Monte	262	11	Hoffman/Via Monte	Southern	Hoffman/ Via Monte	10



Strong Neighborhoods Focus Areas

Strong Neighborhoods Action Coalition Boundaries

Focus Area

★ Field Office

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Clean Neighborhoods lead to Safe Neighborhoods: Broken Window Theory

- 1960's and 70's - proposed Dr. James Q. Wilson and George Kelling
- society or subset of society that appears to be lawless will itself breed lawlessness
- Crime is not necessarily caused by broken down neighborhoods, but “broken down” neighborhoods become magnets for crime and delinquent behavior because of their disorganization.
- People who live in a “broken window neighborhood” may feel like there is no order in their neighborhood; criminals and other delinquents may then be drawn to these areas of lawlessness.



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Broken Window Theory

“broken windows” in San Jose Graffiti leads to more problems



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Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

- Addresses the “broken window theory”
- Examples: changes in lighting, adding lighting, trimming up street trees and trees in parks for better sight lines, removing graffiti as soon as possible

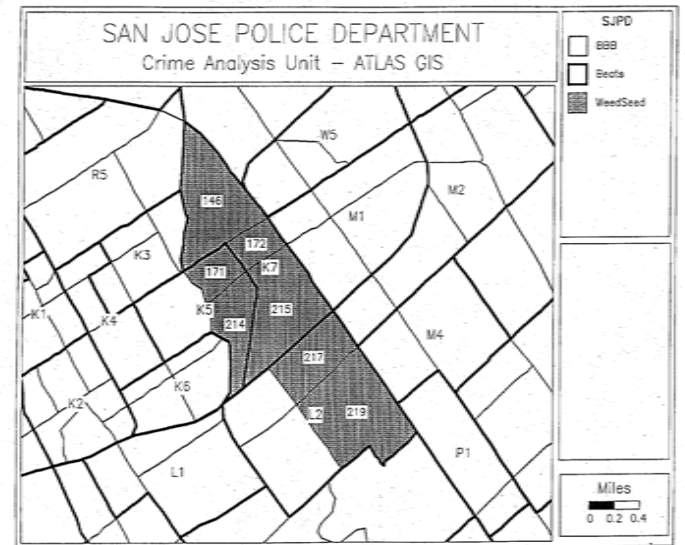


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McKinley/ Bonita Neighborhood

- Proven local example
- 1992: 215 gang and violent crime incidents
- 1993: became a Project Crackdown area



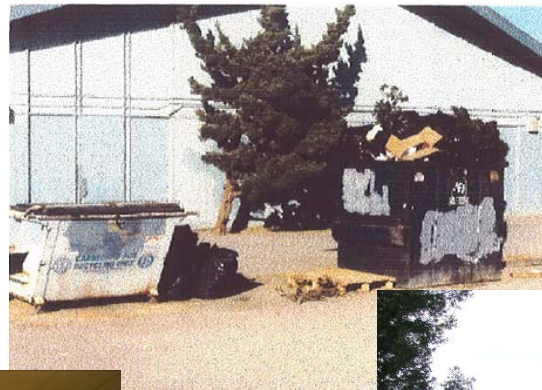
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McKinley/ Bonita Neighborhood

- 2010: 9 incidents
- 2010: API scores have increased more than 100 points in two years because kids feel safe and are able to stay on school campus longer; learning more



1997



2011



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What happened?

- Neighborhood Association organized itself around being clean and safe
- At least once a month litter and graffiti “patrols”
- Residents also went out and did outreach
- NeighborWalk concept came out of this



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Broken windows being addressed in other communities



North Richmond residents have organized night time neighborhood patrols

(photo by Emily Bender)



Downtown San Jose residents just before a nighttime NeighborWalk

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How you can help keep your neighborhood clean, safe, and engaged

- Organize your own NeighborWalk
- Try to organize a NeighborWalk at night
- Work with your neighborhood school to learn about trends and issues happening in your neighborhood
- Host a coffee or potluck with your beat officers when shift change happens (every March and September)
- Community Action & Pride (CAP) grants can be a tool to help you with these actions

Take Action!

- Using the postcard provided, commit to organizing an action in your neighborhood to help reduce crime and criminal behavior
- Focus on the “broken windows” in your neighborhood
- Check the boxes where you might need some help with your action
- These postcards will be collected and mailed back to you in six months
- City staff will contact you if you note that you need help

Questions and Dialogue

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Strong Neighborhoods Contacts

- Paul Pereira, Strong Neighborhoods – 408.535.8506
- Jose Villarreal, Strong Neighborhoods (Spanish) – 408.535.8508
- MyVan Khuu-Seeman, Strong Neighborhoods (Vietnamese) – 408.795.1885
- Ernest Guzman, Neighborhood Development Center – 408.723.4114